

What happens when the internet is turned off?

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These are two related headlines from the FT, both from yesterday. [Start with this:](#)



Then, [note this:](#)



There is no coincidence here, at all, of course. When draconian politics wants to suppress debate, it has a new weapon to do so, and one that is immediately effective. It just turns off the internet, and the whole population affected is discombobulated as a result.

Let's be candid: that would be the consequence here, and let's not pretend it could not happen, because it very obviously could.

Do we need to worry about a world in which that might happen, and how we could communicate in that case, not least when traditional telecommunication networks have, very conveniently, disappeared? I am not listing it as a high priority right now. I am noting it as an issue. How could we communicate in that case?